



BOROUGH OF RADCLIFFE.

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*Mayor :*

Alderman F. SCHOLLES, J.P.

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**ANNUAL REPORT**  
OF THE  
**Medical Officer of Health**

For the Year 1940.

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**W. S. HAYDOCK, B.A., M.D., D.P.H.,**

*Medical Officer of Health.*

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RADCLIFFE PRINTING CO. LTD., CHURCH STREET.

1941.

## Health Committee.

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*Chairman* : Alderman H. T. OGDEN, J.P.

*Vice-Chairman* : Councillor Rev. W. METCALFE

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Alderman T. JACKSON, J.P.

Councillor J. CLEGG,

„ J. H. HALL,

„ F. HOLT,

„ H. JEBB,

„ Mrs. F. LOMAX,

„ J. M. MURPHY,

„ W. OPENSHAW,

„ C. P. PARTRIDGE,

„ A. ROLLISSON,

„ J. E. SWEET,

The MAYOR and DEPUTY MAYOR (ex-officio)

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## Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee.

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THE MAYOR

Alderman H. T. OGDEN, J.P.

Councillor Mrs. W. HALL,

„ Mrs. F. LOMAX,

„ Rev. W. METCALFE.

Mrs. H. MAKIN,

Mrs. M. SCHOLES.

## Officers of the Health Department.

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### *Medical Officer of Health :*

W. STANLEY HAYDOCK, B.A., M.D., D.P.H.

### *Senior Sanitary Inspector :*

GEORGE YATES, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Cert. Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

### *Additional Sanitary Inspector :*

RAYMOND B. ANDERSON, A.R.S.I., A.I.S.E.

Cert. Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

### *Cleansing Superintendent :*

H. FLETCHER.

### *Health Visitors :*

Miss E. MORAN, Cert. Midwife, S.R.N., Health Visitors' Certificate. Appointed 9th January, 1939.

Miss E. HALL, Cert. Midwife, S.R.N., Health Visitors' Certificate. Appointed 10th July, 1939.

Mrs. R. FRYER, Cert. Midwife, S.R.N., Health Visitors' Certificate. Appointed 3rd June, 1940.

### *Matron, Bealey Maternity Home :*

Miss E. HALL, S.R.N., Cert. Midwife.

### *Dental Surgeon, Maternity and Child Welfare :*

Mrs. M. SIBSON, L.D.S.

### *Clerk :*

Miss A. FORREST.

TOWN HALL,

RADCLIFFE.

September, 1941.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the  
Borough of Radcliffe.*

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the district for the year 1940.

The period covered by this report comprises the first full year's working under war conditions and the results are very satisfactory. Indeed the incidence of sickness, and especially infectious illness, has been considerably below the average of recent years, and the Infantile Mortality Rate is one of the lowest ever recorded in the Borough.

The attendances at the Welfare Centres are practically as high as in the period before the outbreak of hostilities, and the births in Bealey Maternity Home exceed the numbers in any one year since the Home was opened in 1926.

These results have been achieved in spite of constant difficulties owing to shortage of staff and the time occupied by duties connected with A.R.P. Much extra work has fallen on the personnel of the Department, and this has been carried out willingly and efficiently.

I am at times concerned by the unavoidable curtailment of certain features of our work, but as far as possible the main requirements and measures necessary to safeguard the health of the people are being attended to.

The prevention of illness is the chief aim of the health services in ordinary times: it is more necessary than ever now that there should be no relaxation of our activities, as the maintenance of the health of the community is such an important factor in the prosecution of the war effort. Sick and debilitated persons cannot withstand the shocks of war in the same way as those who are fit

and well, and not only will outbreaks of disease interfere with national production, but they will tend to make the people more easily disheartened and may even disturb their morale.

In submitting this report I take the opportunity to express my sincere thanks to the Council in general, and particularly to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their support and encouragement.

I also desire to record my appreciation of the good work done by the members of the staff of the Health Department.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. S. HAYDOCK.

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Area (in acres) .....	4,915
Registrar-General's estimate of Resident Population, 1940 .....	26,360
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1940) according to Rate Book.....	8,862
Rateable value .....	£173,324
Sum represented by a penny rate .....	£684

There is a further decrease in the number of unemployed since last year, but otherwise there are no important changes under this heading.

With the exception of an outbreak of measles during the latter part of the period, there were no noteworthy causes of sickness or invalidity, and there are no conditions of occupation or environment which appear to have a prejudicial effect on the health of the local population.

**Vital Statistics.**

Live Births.	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate .....	197	185	382
Illegitimate .....	6	9	15
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	203	194	397
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ..	15.0
Still Births .....	7                  6                  13
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births .....	31.7

	Males	Females	Total
Deaths .....	198	212	410

Adjusted death rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population 15.5

Deaths from puerperal causes :—	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
Puerperal Sepsis .....	1	2.4
Other Puerperal Causes .....	0	..

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births .....	47.8
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births .....	44.5
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ..	133.0

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) .....	46
„ Measles (all ages) .....	Nil
„ Whooping Cough (all ages) .....	1
„ Diarrhoea (under 2 years) .....	1

Deaths according to Wards :—

	Males	Females	Total
Black Lane .....	68	64	132
Radcliffe Bridge ..	35	36	71
Radcliffe Hall ....	26	40	66
Stand Lane ....	54	50	104
Ainsworth .....	15	22	37
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	198	212	410
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>



## Mean Rates for the past 30 years :—

Mean Rate of 5 years	Per 1000 of Population				Maternal Mortality Rate per 1000 Live Births	Rate of Death under 1 year to 1000 Births
	Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Death Rate from Tuber- culosis of Res- piratory System	Death Rate from Cancer		
1910 to 1914 . . . .	19.2	14.0	0.75	not	8.7	129
1915 to 1919 . . . .	15.2	16.6	0.97	available	4.1	113
1920 to 1924 . . . .	17.9	13.4	0.66	„	3.5	94
1925 to 1929 . . . .	13.4	13.3	0.56	„	4.9	60
1930 to 1934 . . . .	13.2	13.1	0.66	1.53	2.96	51
1935 . . . .	11.4	13.8	0.48	2.00	3.23	55
1936 . . . .	12.8	12.4	0.33	1.67	11.56	49
1937 . . . .	12.1	14.7	0.44	1.66	Nil	67
1938 . . . .	13.0	14.3	0.55	2.03	8.52	65
1939 . . . .	12.9	14.8	0.29	2.07	Nil	60
1940 . . . .	15.0	15.5	0.34	1.74	2.5	47.8

The causes of death are as follows :—

Whooping Cough . . . . .	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis . . . . .	9
Other Tuberculous Diseases . . . . .	5
Syphilitic Diseases . . . . .	2
Influenza . . . . .	11
Cancer . . . . .	46
Diabetes . . . . .	7
Cerebral Haemorrhage . . . . .	39
Heart Disease . . . . .	116
Other Circulatory Diseases . . . . .	11
Bronchitis . . . . .	41
Pneumonia . . . . .	22
Other Respiratory Diseases . . . . .	3
Peptic Ulcer . . . . .	3
Diarrhoea . . . . .	1
Appendicitis . . . . .	1
Other Digestive Diseases . . . . .	12
Nephritis . . . . .	9
Maternal Deaths . . . . .	1
Premature Birth . . . . .	3
Other Infant Deaths . . . . .	7
Suicide . . . . .	13
Road Traffic Accidents . . . . .	4
Other Violent Causes . . . . .	9
All Other Causes . . . . .	34



## **B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.**

### **(1) Laboratory Facilities.**

No change has taken place in the arrangements for the examination of clinical material, milk, etc.

20 swabs from suspected Diphtheria cases were examined at the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, 2 of which were positive. Five other specimens were examined and all were negative.

### **(2) Ambulance Facilities.**

Three motor ambulances are now maintained by the Local Authority. They are under the charge of the Fire Brigade Superintendent and are housed at the Fire Station. 4,086 calls were received during the year, including 162 accident cases and 282 for patients admitted to, or discharged from, the Bealey Maternity Home.

The Bury and District Joint Hospital Board have provided two motor ambulances for the removal of infectious cases. The ambulances are kept at the Florence Nightingale Hospital.

### **(3) Nursing in the Home.**

(i) The Radcliffe and District Sick Nursing Association provides trained nursing in the home.

An additional nurse was appointed during the year, and there are now three nurses employed by the Association.

312 patients were attended at their homes and 8,360 visits were paid by the Nurses.

(ii) The Ainsworth and Harwood District Nursing Association maintains a Queen's Nurse for the northern portion of the district, and, in addition to ordinary nursing, she attends midwifery cases in this area.

In 1940 the nurse paid 2,249 visits and nursed 85 cases: 40 medical, 34 surgical, 1 maternity, and 10 midwifery.

Both Associations are carried on by voluntary subscriptions, and the Local Authority makes a contribution to each annually.

#### (4) Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Although the School Clinic is used as a First Aid Post and the Ante-Natal and Child Welfare Centre at Close Park is a First Aid Party Depot, the work of the clinics has been carried on as usual.

The ladies of the Voluntary Committees at Radcliffe and Ainsworth continue to render valuable assistance: practically all are engaged in other voluntary work connected with Civil Defence, but they still maintain their keen interest and enthusiasm for the welfare of the mothers and babies, and the town owes much to them for devoting so much time and energy to this service.

The kindly welcome given to the mothers and their children does much to encourage attendance at the Centres, and I would like again to express my sincere thanks to these ladies, and especially to Mrs. Makin, Mrs. Metcalfe, Mrs. Burgoyne, and Mrs. Pearson for their continued and willing co-operation.

The following table shows the amount of work carried on at the Welfare Centres:—

	New Cases		Total Attendances			Average Attendance per Session
	Children	Expectant Mothers	Under 12 Months	Over 12 Months	Expectant Mothers	
Close Park..	269	288	3542	2502	818	69.2
Ainsworth ..	29	5	375	389	12	32.3

The following figures show the amount of milk issued free and at reduced rates for the past three years:—

	1938	1939	1940
Families assisted ... ..	240	183	167
Pints of fresh milk free... ..	38,784	38,964	21,742
Pints of fresh milk at half cost... ..	1,148	1,232	420
Packets of dried milk free ... ..	1,833	1,996	1,134

**(5) Hospitals.**

No material changes have taken place during the year with regard to the general arrangements for the treatment in Hospital of local sick persons. Owing to the general shortage of nurses and the counter attractions of industry, it has not been possible to maintain the nursing and domestic staff at Bealey Maternity Home at full strength.

The number of admissions for the year is a record, and in order to cope with the work the nurses and other staff have had to put in many extra hours of duty. Except for discharging patients a day or two before the usual time during rush periods treatment was carried out as in previous normal years.

I have had many appreciations of the Home from women who have come to reside temporarily in the district and who are in a position to compare the services we provide with those in other and larger towns.

In addition to the comfort and convenience for the mothers I feel sure the training of the babies in regular habits and the instruction given to the mother during the lying-in period have contributed considerably towards the improvement, noted in recent years, in the health of the children of the Borough.

The following table shows the number of admissions to the Home in 1940 :—

	Full Fee	Reduced Fee	Total
Outside Areas .....	39	—	39
Radcliffe .....	83	88	171
Total .....	122	88	210

**(6) Midwifery and Maternity Services.**

The arrangements are as described in previous reports. There are two municipal midwives in the town, and though they come under the jurisdiction of the County Authority there is close co-operation between them and our department. An Ante-Natal session is held once a month, at which they attend with their patients, and the great majority of expectant mothers are seen and advised before their confinement.

During the year 32 new patients were treated at the Dental Clinic for Expectant and Nursing Mothers, and the total attendance was 98.

Dr. Fletcher Shaw examined 37 patients in 1940. The majority of these cases were admitted, on account of abnormalities, to St. Mary's for their confinement.

#### **(7) Health Visitors.**

During the greater part of the year only two Health Visitors were available for duty, and home visiting was again much curtailed.

The number of home visits paid by the Health Visitors was as follows.:

First Visits to Infants .....	293
Total Visits to Infants under 12 months ..	600
Total Visits to Infants over 12 months ..	835
Ante-Natal—first visits .....	25
Ante-Natal—total-visits .....	27
Other Visits .....	34

#### **(8) Infant Life Protection.**

Each Health Visitor acts as Infant Life Protection Visitor in her own district, and visits any home in which there are children nursed and maintained for reward.

During the year there were six persons registered under the provisions of the Act.

### **C. — SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.**

#### **(9) Water Supply.**

The water supply has been maintained up to the usual high standard. Tests were made of a number of springs and wells in the Borough, and the more satisfactory sources have been earmarked so that they can be used during an emergency and if damage is caused to the mains conveying water to the town.

**(10) Drainage and Sewerage.**

Nothing of importance has occurred under this heading during the past year

**(11) Rivers and Streams.**

The provisions of the Rivers Pollution Acts are administered by the Lancashire County Council.

**(12) Closet and Ashpits Accommodation.**

The following table shows the closet and ashpit accommodation at the end of 1920, also at the end of each of the past five years, and demonstrates the conversions and additions made since the scheme came into operation in October, 1921:—

	*1920	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
Privies .....	1883	343	318	272	185	180
Pail Closets .....	260	252	243	243	241	241
Fresh Water Closets .....	2635	7539	7811	7903	8219	8263
Waste Water Closets .....	1642	1492	1439	1308	1202	1175
Wet Ashpits .....	1011	226	202	177	127	122
Dry Ashpits .....	909	430	402	370	314	294
Ashbins .....	1849	7359	7656	7860	8167	8204

\* The figures for 1920 do not include the districts of Outwood and Ainsworth, which were added to the Borough in 1933.

**(13) Public Cleansing.**

In addition to the ordinary duties the Cleansing Department is responsible for the collection of salvage, and although this entails much extra work the general activities of the Department have been carried on as usual.

**(14) Sanitary Inspection of the Area.**

The following tabular summary of the work of the Sanitary Department was prepared by the Sanitary Inspector in accordance with Article 19 of the Sanitary Officers' Order, 1926:—

**(a) Number of inspections made during the year:—**

Inspection of houses, etc., including re-inspections	978
Number of cases of infectious diseases reported upon	67
„ houses disinfected ... ..	101
„ drains tested (by smoke) ... ..	12
„ samples of milk obtained for bacteriological examination ... ..	12
„ houses demolished ... ..	—

(b) Number of Notices served :—

(1) Informal Notices ... ..	153
(2) Statutory Notices ... ..	5

(c) Compliance with Statutory Notices :—

All the Statutory Notices were complied with.

#### (15) **Eradication of Bed Bugs.**

27 houses were found to be infested with bugs and were suitably dealt with.

The preparations used were Zaldecide and Furmex. All the work was carried out under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

There has been a further increase in the incidence of scabies, and we are handicapped in our efforts to deal with this problem by reason of the lack of adequate cleansing facilities.

### **D.—HOUSING.**

Owing to war conditions difficulties have been experienced in dealing with matters connected with housing, and it has not been possible to insist on the same standards to which we were accustomed before the war.

Little progress has been made to relieve overcrowding.

4 new houses were completed by the Local Authority at the end of the year. In addition 8 were erected by private enterprise.

### **E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**

#### (16) **Milk.**

Owing to pressure of work and other circumstances fewer samples have been tested than in previous years. There is constant supervision over supplies produced locally, and generally speaking these are satisfactory.

#### (17) **Meat and other Foods.**

Meat is supplied from Central Depots outside the Borough, and is examined by the local Sanitary Inspectors before dispatch.

Regular inspections were made under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, of stalls, shops, etc., and informal action was taken where necessary.



# NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1940

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED													Total Deaths	Total Remov'd Cases to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital of Persons belongi'g to District
	Total Cases at all Ages	Years														
		Un- der 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over			
Smallpox .....	30	..	..	..	2	..	8	5	..	5	1	..	..	..	23	..
Scarlet Fever .....	25	..	2	2	..	3	3	3	..	6	3	..	..	..	25	..
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup) ..	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
Enteric Fever (inc. Paratyphoid)	184	5	13	19	30	29	74	8	3	2	..	1	..	..	..	..
Measles .....	31	4	..	3	6	5	12	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Pneumonia (Primary and Influenzal) ..	45	2	4	1	..	3	1	..	4	7	10	11	2	22	3	1
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	..	..	..	4	..
Cerebro-Spinal Fever .....	2	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
Acute Poliomyelitis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Polio-Encephalitis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Encephalitis Lethargica .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dysentery .....	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas .....	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	3	1
Malaria .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	327	12	19	27	42	39	100	17	16	23	15	15	2	25	63	3



## F.—PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified in 1940 and for the preceding four years :—

Disease	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
Diphtheria .....	36	30	64	59	25
Erysipelas .....	11	13	10	12	3
Scarlet Fever .....	76	69	81	46	30
Typhoid Group .....	—	—	—	1	2
Puerperal Fever .....	3	6	3	5	4
Puerperal Pyrexia .....					
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	1	2	5	1	—
Encephalitis Lethargica .....	—	—	1	1	—
Pneumonia .....	31	53	43	39	45
Cerebro-Spinal Fever .....	—	1	1	—	2
Acute Poliomyelitis .....	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery .....	—	—	—	—	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .....	24	20	18	15	20
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis....	14	18	12	9	9

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES ACCORDING TO WARDS.

Disease	Black Lane	Radcliffe Bridge	Radcliffe Hall	Stand Lane	Ainsworth	Total
Scarlet Fever .....	7	3	6	9	5	30
Diphtheria .....	3	6	5	11	—	25
Pneumonia .....	17	9	2	8	9	45
Measles .....	62	42	16	46	18	184
Whooping Cough .....	18	6	5	2	—	31
Erysipelas .....	1	—	—	2	—	3
Enteric Fever .....	—	—	—	1	1	2
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	1	—	1	2	—	4
Cerebro-Spinal Fever .....	—	—	2	—	—	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ....	7	1	4	4	4	20
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis..	3	3	—	3	—	9
	119	70	41	88	37	355

**(18) Prevention of Blindness.**

Section 66 of the Public Health Amendment Act, 1925, is administered by the County Council.

I examined 18 local applicants for pensions at the request of the County Medical Officer of Health during the year.

Eight were blind, five not blind, and five were referred for further examination.

**(19) Tuberculosis.**

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years.								
0-1 .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1-5 .....	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
5-10 .....	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
10-15 .....	1	1	..	1	..	..	1	..
15-20 .....	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
20-25 .....	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
25-35 .....	3	4	1	1	..	1	..	2
35-45 .....	1	..	1	..	..	1	2	..
45-55 .....	3	1	..	1	3	1	..	..
55-65 .....	2	..	..	1	1	1	..	..
65 and upwards ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	13	7	4	5	4	5	3	2
	20		9		9		5	
	29				14			

**BOROUGH OF RADCLIFFE.****REPORT OF TUBERCULOSIS OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1940.**

During the year 1940, 29 notifications of patients suffering from tuberculosis were received. Of these, 20 were notified as suffering from tuberculosis of the lungs and 9 from non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

Of the 20 pulmonary cases, 13 were found to have tubercle bacilli in the sputum, 4 had negative sputum, 2 had no sputum, and in one case the sputum was not examined.

The nine non-pulmonary cases are classified as follows:—

Skin ... ..	1	Neck Glands ... ..	3
Generalised... ..	1	Ulna ... ..	1
Peritoneum ... ..	1	Meninges ... ..	2

Six of the notified cases died during the year.

Twenty-three of the cases applied for treatment. Of these 8 were sent to Sanatoria, 6 to Pulmonary Hospital, and 1 to Skin Hospital. The remaining 8 cases were under dispensary supervision only.

There were six non-applicants. The reasons for not applying were as follows:—

Died ... ..	3
In Union Hospital ... ..	1
Diagnosis not confirmed ... ..	2



